

and willingness to stand up for what is right was a constant inspiration to me, both in our work in the House of Representatives and in our co-chairmanship of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus. He was a hero in the eyes of so many, and his loss will be felt acutely by all of us.

I extend my most sincere condolences to TOM's family, and I encourage my colleagues to take up the torch with which TOM illuminated the world's darkest corners.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE LEADERSHIP OF ELEPHANT BUTTE

#### HON. STEVAN PEARCE

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 13, 2008*

Mr. PEARCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the great accomplishments of leaders of Elephant Butte, New Mexico. Mayor Bob Barnes, Councilor Adrienne Podlesny, and Councilor John Van Gundy truly care about the city of Elephant Butte. Each proudly served since the city was incorporated and are so dedicated they worked out of their homes until the city had an office.

Councilor John Van Gundy served on a planning board for the first 2 years after the city was incorporated then became elected to the council and has now served 8 years.

Both Mayor Barnes and Councilor Podlesny have both worked for the city for 10 years, and Mayor Barnes in fact became the first and only mayor of Elephant Butte.

Through their tireless work and dedication, these individuals have made countless contributions to the community of Elephant Butte. Their legacy of diligent work includes improving city parks, developing a waste water system, and incorporating the city. Other accomplishments include widening and paving city streets, building an addition to the fire department, and numerous other improvements.

The progress and growth of Elephant Butte can be attributed to the diligent hard work of these 3 individuals. I know the people of Elephant Butte have gained many more opportunities and are now able to live better lives because of the leadership and hard work of Mayor Barnes and Councilors Van Gundy and Podlesny. I want to congratulate each of them for their achievements and wish them the best of luck in their future.

#### HONORING STANLEY RONDA, JR.

#### HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 13, 2008*

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Stanley Ronda, Jr., of Toledo, Ohio.

It is with the deepest appreciation that I pay tribute to the long life of a good, patient, and kind man, Stanley Ronda, Jr. He lived his years in service to his family, friends, and our Toledo community. Coming from the working class and of Polish-American heritage, he

graduated college in architecture in an era when that was a rare achievement for a family of their means. Stan was a path breaker.

He was always generous with his company, his conversation and his artistic creations. He greeted every person with a broad smile and a laugh. He was an engaging conversationalist and a patient teacher, too. He labored to transfer his considerable skills in calligraphy, architectural drafting, and model building to all who expressed an interest.

For decades, he worked for the City of Toledo in the Toledo Lucas County Planning Commissions, from where he retired. I can still see him bent over his light table in the Huron Building preparing the architectural and subdivision drawings for cases pending before the Commission. He reported to work every day, always wearing a white, long-sleeved shirt and held standards of military precision.

Once, when we worked together on a project, we were assigned to field check and map all of Monclova Township, Ohio. That is 16,000 acres. Stan and I worked on that for days. I hold many precious memories of Stan during that laborious effort.

Stan never asked anything for himself. He was always creating lovely-original works for others such as mailings at the holidays or special occasions. Each was carefully drawn and colored with his signature logo was at the lower left corner—a miniature version of him sitting at his drawing table. At Christmas, his logo would wear a tiny Santa hat. On his own initiative, Stan drew many beautiful renderings of landmark structures in Toledo. When I was elected to office, I commissioned Stan to do a rendering of historic churches of Toledo. He gladly accepted and this framed achievement always hangs in our Congressional office.

Though Stan became more fragile with years, he never, ever complained. He always welcomed a visitor with that same open smile. Stan revered the time he witnessed developments of downtown Toledo like the Maumee River Crossing Bridge, the new Ferry Landing, the future Marina District and the Mud Hens. He was overjoyed that day to view his hometown, to which he had dedicated his working years, building forward.

May God welcome Stan home; a good and faithful servant. May He shower him royally with blessings into eternity and bestow upon him a loving peace.

#### IN REMEMBRANCE OF DR. HARRY JEFFREY

#### HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 13, 2008*

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 71st anniversary of the birth of Dr. Harry Palmer Jeffrey, Jr.

Dr. Jeffrey obtained his bachelor's degree at Dartmouth College in 1959, his master's degree at Ohio State University in 1961 and his Ph.D. at Columbia University in 1973.

In Congress, he worked for Representatives John Heinz, Paul Schenck, William McCulloch and Senator John Bricker. He served in the White House for the Lyndon Johnson and

Richard Nixon Administrations, and met every President of the United States from Herbert Hoover to Bill Clinton.

Dr. Jeffrey ran for office twice. He won the Ohio State GOP primary for the State Legislature in 1960, but lost in the general election. And in 1976, he unsuccessfully sought the GOP nomination for California's 40 District, which I now serve.

He was one of my professors when I was in college at California State University, Fullerton. He taught U.S. history and we used to debate on many issues, which helped to form my political views. He was also the faculty sponsor of my College Republican Club. We stayed in touch for all these years. In fact just recently, I visited his class at Soka University.

Dr. Jeffrey passed away November 4, 2007, and is survived by his wife, Mee-Young, his son, Robert, his step-daughter, Clara, sisters, Julie & Susu, and grandchildren, Marieke & Lex.

Please join me in remembering and honoring Dr. Jeffrey for a life spent dedicated to his family and community.

#### HONORING RETIRING CHEEKTOWAGA TOWN SUPERVISOR JAMES J. JANKOWIAK

#### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 13, 2008*

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor James J. Jankowiak, who concluded decades of faithful public service by serving one year as Supervisor of the most populous town in the 27th Congressional District, the great town of Cheektowaga.

Jim Jankowiak is, above almost anything else, a man of the people. Jim is a regular guy who worked hard, loved his family and his community, and did everything he could to give back to that community he loved so well. From his career beginnings in the highway garage to his career as the most effective Parks Commissioner in the history of Erie County government, Jim Jankowiak consistently led by example, and the taxpayers of each respective jurisdiction within which he served were better for it.

Jim's service on the local level—first as Chairman of the town's Democratic Committee and later as a Councilman and finally Supervisor, demonstrates clearly his love for the town in which he lived his life. Where I come from—in South Buffalo, NY—we like to say that we're a community of neighborhoods; South Cheektowaga is no different. Differentiated as it is by parishes or by fire districts, it's still a collection of neighborhoods, and Jim Jankowiak is, at heart, a kid from the neighborhood—and he never forgot from whence he came. That's high praise.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join me in honoring and congratulating Jim Jankowiak upon the conclusion of his official service to the taxpayers of the town of Cheektowaga. I know that you join me and the rest of our colleagues in wishing Jim, his wife Donna and their entire family the very best of good luck and Godspeed in the months and years to come.